



224 Mary Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 • Phone: (507) 723-5397 • [www.sjlcmc.org](http://www.sjlcmc.org) • Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9am - 2pm CST

## THE RICHES OF THE PRESENT

Most of us worry about yesterday rather than look to the future. We keep our heads down, afraid someone might see our pain and anguish, instead of looking upward to the heavens to our Savior, Jesus Christ. We should be asking "What is it you want me to do today?" Lord.

What has happened in the past does not matter. It's the riches of the present that we should deal with. How can I help my Lord?

Lack of fear is not courage, its more simply ignorance of danger. Courage involves a wellness to choose the right path even when is it difficult, diligence in pursuing the path, consistency in sticking to the path and the fortitude to endure the hardships along the way. That is what our Lord and Savior did for us. Imagine what we could do if we only had the courage.

Show up for God's work in Life's Vineyard, whether you come early, or you arrive late. He'll treat us the same.

No one cares how much you know, how smart you are, who you are related to. They only want to know how much you care. Beware of individuals suffering, it may not be you today but what about next week.

The needle gate of Jesus's time was not unlike the eye of the needle, extremely skinny. To be able to pass through the gate the camel had to be unloaded and made to crawl through the gate on their knees.

Once inside it would be reloaded and sent to the distribution. God reminds us in Matthew 19:30 *"Many who are first will be last and many who are last will be first."* Don't give up on God's Kingdom, invite others to church, start going regularly, be patient as you listen to the needs of others. Fulfill those needs. Thank God for the opportunity to be of service.

No matter how mature we get there is always an opportunity to serve God. If you are looking for a home church, the churches of Springfield welcome you.

*"Come let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today if only you would hear his voice."* Psalm 95:6-7

Pastor Roger Godfredsen  
St Johns Lutheran Church

*Pastor Roger lives in Milford, Iowa with his wife, Vickie. They have 5 daughters and 2 sons. They also have 24 grandchildren.*



# October Church Calendar

## Sunday, Oct 01

9:00AM Sunday Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Oct 3

9:00 AM Quilting

## Wednesday, Oct 04

4-5:00 PM 1st Communion Class  
5:15PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
6:00PM Confirmation  
7:00PM Choir

## Thursday, Oct 5

9:00AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time

## Sunday, Oct 08

9:00AM Sunday Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Oct 10

9:00 AM Quilting  
3 - 5:00PM Pro-Kinship

## Wednesday, Oct 11

4-5:00PM 1st Communion Class  
5:15PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
6:00PM Confirmation  
7:00PM Choir  
7:30PM Council Mtg

## Thursday, Oct 12

9:00AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time

## Sunday, Oct 15

9:00AM Sunday Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Oct 17

9:00 AM Quilting  
3 - 5:00PM Pro-Kinship

## Wednesday, Oct 18

5:15PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
NO Confirmation  
NO Choir

## Thursday, Oct 19 - Newsletter Deadline

9:00AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time  
6:30PM WOW

## Friday Oct 20

2:00PM Bingo St John's Home

## Sunday, Oct 22

9:00AM Sunday Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Oct 24

9:00 AM Quilting

## Wednesday, Oct 25

5:15PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
6:00PM Confirmation  
7:00PM Choir

## Thursday, Oct 26

9:00AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time

## Sunday, Oct 29

9:00AM Sunday Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Oct 31

9:00 AM Quilting  
4-7:00PM Trunk or Treat @ St Johns

# October Worship Helpers

## October 1 (Holy Communion)

Lay Readers.....Needed  
Com Asst..... Gabby Anderson & Jaelyn Batzlaff  
Acolytes ..... Preston Anderson & Cameron Halvorson  
Birthday Reader ..... Gabby Anderson

## October 8

Lay Reader .....Needed  
Acolytes ..... August Saffert & Tyler Petersen  
Birthday Reader ..... Brooklyn Petersen

## October 15 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader .....Needed  
Com Asst..... Bowen Eberhard & Jaden Hornick  
Acolytes ..... Liam Eberhard & Camden Guhlke  
Birthday Reader ..... Bowen Eberhard

## October 22

Lay Reader ..... Laurie Krueger  
Acolytes ..... Paxton Runck & Conner Schmitt  
Birthday Reader ..... Paxton Runck

## October 29

Lay Reader .....Needed  
Acolytes ..... Olivia Milbrath  
Birthday Reader ..... Amaira Brown

**LAY READERS ARE NEEDED! CAN YOU SPARE A SUNDAY?**

## SEPTEMBER USHERS

» Ben Luense, Bruce Ahlness, Collin Ahlness,  
Jason Beyer, Lucas Milbrath



# WOW! We did it! Thank you!

The Augustana District Women of the Word Fall Gathering was held at St John's on Saturday, September 16. There were seventy-eight women who attended from churches as far away as North Dakota, South Dakota, and northern Minnesota. Three churches, one in New York, watched the livestream of the Gathering. Pastor Julie Smith led us in worship with Holy Communion. Pastor Erica Varcoe from The Kitchen Table in Sioux Falls and Pastor Jennifer Bennet from Colorado gave inspiring speeches on Faith and Fear. There were opportunities for women to share with each other during the breaks and lunch and to check out a number of displays. The archived live stream of the day can be found on the St. Johns website page. [sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com)

I am so grateful for all the women, men, and high school students who had a hand in making the WOW Fall Gathering such a success. So many people were involved, including those who helped set up and tear down tables and displays, those who made the sanctuary look beautiful, bought groceries, prepped, prepared, and served food, cleaned up the kitchen, and served as ushers and greeters. I cannot begin to thank you enough, and I won't even try to name you all for fear of missing someone. A special thanks to the Women of St. Johns, who began working on the logistics of the Fall Gathering last year. We did it!!!

Jodi Dalsgaard

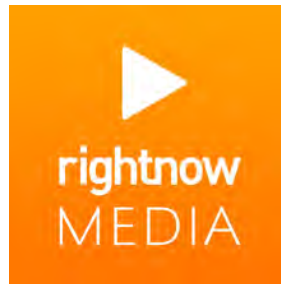


**There are many announcements  
on the bulletin boards so  
please take a look!**



**Nursing Home Bingo is the 3rd  
Friday of every month.**

**Volunteers can sign up on the  
lists by the offices.**



St. Johns church offers free access to RIGHT NOW MEDIA for all our members. Call or email for a link to start exploring the amazing resource library. Sign up today and grow in faith and knowledge in your walk with God.

Church email: [sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com)

## REMINDER

**Please check your  
mailbox...**



**There are many unclaimed items.**



**Bible  
STUDY  
Join us!**

Bible study Thursday mornings is now available via Zoom. Contact Church office, we will need your email address to get you linked in.



Wish your St Johns Newsletter came sooner? Get on our email list! Just email us at [sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com) With the subject line: "I want to have my newsletter emailed to me" and we will subscribe you to receive the newsletter digitally or sign up at the website.



#### October 1

Tom Anderson  
Camden Guhlke  
Sarah Kottke  
Shane Martin

#### October 2

Nathan Herfurth  
Ashley Anderson  
Elijah Meier

#### October 4

Jerry Martius

#### October 5

Inez Anderson  
Peggy Martius  
Cole Paplow

#### October 6

Laurie Krueger  
Pr. Roger Godfredsen

#### October 7

Darwin Ahlness  
Brady Anderson

#### October 9

Julie Menage

#### October 10

Tammy Frost  
Kari Smith

#### October 11

Cory Ahlness  
Peter Dalsgaard

#### October 12

Darlene Anderson  
Val Kieper  
Samantha Hesse

#### October 13

John Holles  
Carson Wrucke  
Elena Anderson

#### October 14

Diane Johnson

#### October 15

Isaac Jensen

#### October 17

Ivan Anderson

#### October 21

Brigette Brown

#### October 23

Jean Youngerberg  
MaKenna Cook

#### October 24

Kim Anderson  
Sandy Honl  
Tenley Smith

#### October 25

Chetter Bisel

#### October 26

Chase Shoen

#### October 27

Bob Dalsgaard  
Julie Hogen

Martha Hedstrom

#### October 28

Corbin Hesse

#### October 29

Alan Holles

#### October 31

Joeli Kretsch  
Dylan Batzlaff  
Linda Meier

## Happy Anniversary

#### October 3

Rod & Julie Smith

#### October 8

Chris & Amanda Petersen

#### October 6

Collin & Natalie Ahlness

#### October 10

Shawn & Mariah Anderson

May God bless  
you all with  
good health,  
good  
fortune and lots  
of love on your  
special day!

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated in the photo sessions for our upcoming church pictorial directory. The Directory is a handy tool for the pastor and our members to be able to put a face with a name. It will be a while before the Directory is complete. We want to include church activities, but most don't get going until mid to late September. Then we put together a layout - send it in - they send it back, then we proof it, and then send it back to be printed. All of this takes time. The Directory folks will mail your pictures, but a time frame was not provided for when that will happen.

We will take pictures from time to time of the different committees and gatherings at the church. Be prepared next time your committee meets, or we may contact you to gather after a Sunday worship service. We appreciate all the cooperation you have given us.  
VerJean Luense & Laurie Krueger

Thank you

Thank you, Lori Milbrath for providing our birthday and anniversary lists. Your help is very appreciated.



## DEADLINE

The November Newsletter Deadline is October 19. Submissions after the deadline are not guaranteed inclusion into the newsletter.

**Please submit all articles and information to the church office, thank you!**

**St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023**

In attendance: Andrew Hauger, Rod Smith, Sue Anderson, Tracie Berg, Brenda Krieger, April Beyer, Todd Wells, Pastor Roger Godfredsen, Chris Petersen, Chad Thram, Brian Meier, David Milbrath and Adam Beers

Absent: None

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 7:20 pm.

Pastor Godfredsen opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Secretary's Report:**

1. One correction from 8-9-23 minutes is that Chaplain Noel did the funeral service for Nadene Ahlness instead of Paster Godfredsen.
- m/s/c Sue Anderson/Chris Petersen

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Bank accounts as of August 31, 2023: General account \$66,438.53; Dedicated account \$102,782.21.
  2. The India's Mission line is still being corrected by our book keeper, Karla Havemeir.
  3. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Eller made a donation to the church with an unspecified purpose.
  4. Discussion that the church's insurance premiums went up \$4,000 more than last year.
- m/s/c David Milbrath/Brend Krieger

**Board of Education Report:** Presented by April Beyer

1. All Sundy School teachers and substitutes have been lined for the Sunday School year.
2. 9/13/23(tonight) had meetings for confirmation, acolytes, and first communion students.
3. 9/17/23 is the first day of Sunday School and being handed out are Bibles(preschooler & 3rd graders) while Small Catechisms(2nd graders) will be handed out also. There also will be a catechism class for these 2nd graders.
4. Jodi Dalsgaard will be restarting a program that connects adult congregation members to Sunday School students to be prayer mates.

**Board of Trustees' Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger.

1. Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.
2. Front sidewalk had some repaired due to water leakage into the funeral room.
3. Support was added to the kitchen solid countertop.
4. Basement windows are going to be delivered soon and then installation will begin.
5. Andrew Hauger will be contacting John Nicholson to see if he can assist with background checks for Sunday School teachers.
6. Andrew Hauger will be contacting Matt Horkey to repair the electric heaters in the confirmation room.

**Board of Deacons' Report:** Presented by Sue Anderson

1. Communion assignments for September are:
  - a. 10/1- Todd Wells set-up, Adam Beers & Brenda Krieger to assist. Rod Smith to lead service.
  - b. 10/15- Todd Wells set-up, Sue Anderson and Rod Smith to assist.
2. Regarding membership changes for the month of August:
  - a. Baptisms..... 0
  - b. Transfers in ..... 1      Jim Anderson
  - c. Transfers out..... 0
  - d. Funerals(visitation) ..... 2      Nadene Ahlness on 7/25/23, Gary Kersten 8/1/23
  - e. Inactive list..... 0
  - f. Removal- by request ..... 0
  - g. Requested membership..... 0

**Pastor's Report:** Presented by Pastor Godfredsen

1. Sturm Funeral Home is offering a preplanning funeral meeting at the Springfield Country Club on 10/10/23 at 6:00 pm. Pastor Godfredsen recommended that St. John's Church create a template for funeral wishes.



2. Pastor had 15 visits.
3. Confirmation students need to be assigned a church mentor.
4. First communion Sunday will be 10/15.
5. Pastor will be leaving for the LCMC convention so Rod Smith will be leading the 10/1/23 service.

#### Discussions:

1. Stewardship & Evangelism: No reports provided.
2. Worship and Music: During the Christmas time, there will be a Sunday morning, 12/24 at 9:00 am service, and a 5:00 pm service on Christmas Eve. There will be no Monday, Christmas morning service this year.  
m/s/c David Milbrath/Brian Meier
3. Children, Youth, and Families: Discussion took place with considering adding doctrine material like ten commitments and bible verses to learn in conjunction with current curriculum material.

#### Old Business:

1. Confirmation Plan: Clarification took place about requirements.
2. Congregation Survey: 34 surveys have been returned.
3. Review for continuation- Inactive membership plan. The letter that Brian Meier and Dave Milbrath generated will be contacted to get their input on the inactive letter to be sent. An email will be sent out and voted on.
4. Call Committee: One Texan candidate applied, and they will be contacting them.
5. New Hope and St. Paul's Church Discussion: Further discussion about sharing a pastor was discussed.

#### New Business:

1. Purchase another wall photo rack: Tracie Berg will be looking into a company that a rack could be ordered.
2. Gladys Jones had donated money and wants to see a tangible item that the funds can be used toward.

Closing Prayer: Led by Andrew Hauger

Adjourn: m/s/c All

Next meeting: October 11th @ 7:30 pm.

Secretary, Adam Beers



**The Kitchen  
Table Ministry**

Every Wednesday  
at 5:15PM

St. John's Lutheran Church!

Join us!







Join us for:  
Bingo, Tours &  
Refreshments

September 27th, 2023

1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Tour and Refreshments


3 p.m. Big Bingo

201 S. County Rd. 5, Springfield, MN

Cottonwood offers private apartments for people age 62 or over. Tenants pay rent of 30% of their adjusted gross income after medical expenses. Rental assistance is provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for eligible seniors.

**COTTONWOOD**  
— RIDGE —  
APARTMENTS FOR SENIORS

 507-723-4500

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## NEEDED FOOD SHELF ITEMS

Items that are needed at the food shelf are Apple, cranberry combinations, and grape juice in 64 oz. containers, baking products such as brown sugar, frosting, cake/cookie mixes and any other baking items. Breakfast bars, variety of spaghetti sauces, small cans of coffee, instant oatmeal variety packs, fruit snacks for kids, fruit cups for kids and adults, toothpaste, cereals. Anything we receive we will use in the food shelf as long as the expiration date is OK.

Feel free to contact or call Shari Koll at 507-227-0386 if you have questions. You may also contact Dave Carruthers with questions at 507-276-6679. You may also leave a message on the food shelf phone 507-723-3663, and we will call you back.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation instead of donating food item then drop in an envelope. Send to:

**Springfield Area Food Shelf**  
**PO Box 15**  
**Springfield, MN 56087**

A heart felt thank You to all who support the local food shelf. Clients really do appreciate all the groceries they receive. We couldn't do this without your generosity.

